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3 June 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Mr. Donald F. Simpson
Concerning the Transfer of HEW Responsibilities
for Sections of the NIS

HHS/HEW Declassification & Release Instructions on File

1. In a telephone conversation with Mr. Donald F. Simpson, Assistant Secretary for Administration, HEW, on 2 June 1966, he reported that Mr. Ralph Roberts, State's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget, had called and said that the Department of State would not accept the transfer of the HEW NIS staff. Mr. Roberts told Mr. Simpson that the matter had been taken up by Mr. Crockett with Tom Hughes and Under Secretary of State George Ball, and that the response had been an unequivocal NO, State will not assume responsibility.

2. Mr. Simpson said that he was now forced to draft a letter for the signature of Secretary Gardner, HEW, to the Director, CIA, saying that -- upon the completion of this current fiscal year agreement -- HEW would not continue the work for the NIS and would insist that all arrangements with CIA be terminated. He indicated, however, that there would be a 90-day grace period beyond 1 July to allow for security, personnel processing, and arrangements of space and other administrative matters. He felt that this was an adequate period of time to allow the Agency to make other arrangements and had been advised by the administrative people in the Department of State to this effect. Mr. Simpson will read the draft letter over the phone to me on Monday, 6 June. He indicated that he saw no other alternative and was forced to take this action.

3. 

He reiterated that any association of HEW with intelligence is unacceptable.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

JAMES A. BRAMMELL

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cc: Ex. Dir. - Comptroller
ADDI

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